

Message Text

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13

ACTION ARA-10

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H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4687

INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO

UNCLAS MEXICO 9408

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, CU

SUBJ: TWO VIEWS ON US "PASSIVITY" AT QUITO ON CUBA SANCTIONS.

FOR US DELEGATION TO QUITO MFM

1. EDITORIAL OPINION OF TWO MAJOR MEXICO CITY DAILIES, NOVEDADES (MIDDLE-ROAD) AND EXCELSIOR (LEFT-WING), TAKES FOR GRANTED THAT POSITION BEING CARRIED TO QUITO BY US DELEGATION TO MFM ON CUBA WILL BE ONE STUDIOUSLY DESIGNED TO "LET IT HAPPEN", I.E. TO AVOID A MAJOR BATTLE TO PRESERVE 1964 SANCTIONS AND THUS HEDGE AGAINST A HUMILIATING DEFEAT.

2. NOVEDADES VIEWS THIS PRESUMED US FENCE-STRADDLING AS AN ENCOURAGING SIGN OF INCREASED WILLINGNESS TO REACH AN EVENTUAL ACCOMMODATION WITH CASTRO. BY EXTENSION, NOVEDADES SAYS, THE US POSTURE BODES WELL FOR A STRENGTHENING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM.

3. CHARACTERISTICALLY, EXCELSIOR FINDS SUCH A US POSITION MORE DEVIOUS IN INTENT. MERELY REPUDIATING THE SANCTIONS POLICY ADOPTED BY THE OAS WILL LEAVE THE US FREE TO CONTINUE ITS OWN UNILATERAL "BOYCOTT" OF CUBA -- WHICH OF COURSE WOULD GIVE CUBA LITTLE RELIEF IN REAL TERMS. INSTEAD, EXCELSIOR DEMANDS THAT MFM NOT MERELY LIFT 1964 SANCTIONS

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BUT THAT IT GO ON TO REQUIRE THAT ALL MEMBER STATES ACT

INDIVIDUALLY TO TERMINATE THEIR RESPECTIVE BLOCKADE MEASURES
AGAINST CUBA.
BRANDIN

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NNN

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